

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07
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R 190926Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3083
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
552ND AWCW TINKER AFB FOR CC

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 0288

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILIT, NATO, NO
SUBJECT: AWACS BRIEFING BY BG JOHN PIOTROWSKI

REFS: (A) USNATO 6952 DTG Z117052 12/76 (B) USDEL MSG 887/76 DTG
201305Z 12/76 (C) USDAO LONDON DTG 291757Z 12/76

1. EMBASSY WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY GENRAL PIOTROWSKI'S
PRESENCE IN OSLO JAN 13-14 TO BRIEF SENIOR NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS
AND COUNTRY TEAM ON AWACS, AND APPRECIATE EFFORT MADE TO SQUEEZE
US INTO ALREADY TIGHT SCHEDULE. GON'S SERIOUS INTEREST IN
AWACS REFLECTED BY HIGH LEVEL MILITARY AND DEFENSE ATTENDEES
AT JAN 13 DINNER HOSTED BY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HOLST
IN BG PIOTROWSKI'S HONOR. BG PIOTROWSKI'S OBVIOUS
EXPERTISE AND UNIQUE COMPETENCE IN FIELD AND WILLINGNESS TO
DISCUSS ISSUES IN STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER MADE DEFINITELY
POSITIVE IMPRESSION ON NORWEGIAN AUDIENCE.

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2. LINE OF QUESTIONING WHICH FOLLOWED BG PIOTROWSKI'S POST
DINNER PRESENTATION CRYSTALIZED CONCERNS WHICH NORWEGIAN
OFFICIALS HAVE WITH AWACS PROGRAM. THESE HAVE TO DO INTER
ALIA WITH:

-- COMPARATIVE UTILITY OF AWACS TO NORTHERN FLANK VS.
CENTRAL FRONT WHERE BATTLE MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES OF

SYSTEM COULD BE AS IMPORTANT AS EARLY WARNING WHICH IS NOT
FEELING HERE WHERE PRIMARY INTEREST IS WARNING
-- CONCERN OVER AVAILABILITY OF NORTHERN FLANK COVERAGE
VS. CENTRAL FLANK DEMANDS
-- CAPACITY OF AIRCRAFT FOR MARITIME SURVEILLANCE.

3. PRIMARY TECHNICAL CONCERN OF AUDIENCE (AND GON IN GENERAL)
WAS ON SURVIVABILITY OF AWACS AIRCRAFT WHICH MADE BG PIOTROWSKI'S
BRIEFING PARTICULARLY PERTINENT. BG PIOTROWSKI'S ENCYCLOPEDIA
KNOWLEDGE AND DEPTH OF DETAIL PUT TO GOOD USE IN ANSWERING WIDE
VARIETY OF QUESTIONS BUT MOST PARTICULARLY THOSE TOUCHING
SURVIVABILITY.

4. WHILE DOUBTS ABOUT SURVIVABILITY STILL REMAIN IN MINDS OF
MANY PRESENT BG PIOTROWSKI'S ELABORATION OF POINT THAT
MANEUVERABILITY OF AWACS GIVES IT SIGNIFICANT DEFENSE ADVANTAGE
OVER GROUND SYSTEMS SUCH AS NADGE MADE IMPRESSION.

5. IN SUM, EMBASSY FEELS THIS TYPE OF TECHNICAL BRIEFING ON
COMPLICATED TOPIC BY OBVIOUS EXPERT PARTICULARLY VALUABLE
AS IT BRIDGES KNOWLEDGE GAP WITHOUT PRESENCE OF ERODING UNDERCURRENT
OF SALESMANSHIP.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 19-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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